

REMARKS

This Third Supplemental Preliminary Amendment seeks to incorporate into this application additional claims (i.e., new claims 198-210) to more fully protect the instant invention. No new matter has been added.

Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a complete set of the pending claims, as defined by the previous supplemental amendments and the amendment submitted herewith. Given the number of preliminary amendments, it is believed that Exhibit A may facilitate the Examiner's review of all of the claims pending in the instant application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Submitted concurrently herewith (via first class mail) is an Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS"), including a modified Form PTO-1449 and a copy of all of the documents listed on the Form PTO-1449. A copy of the IDS and Form PTO-1449 is attached hereto. It should be noted that the documents listed on the Form PTO-1449 were referenced in a communication from the Japanese Patent Office (hereinafter "COMMUNICATION") in a Japanese application that claims priority to U.S. Application Serial No. 07/510,898 -- a parent of the instant application.

It is believed that the Examiner may find the documents cited in the Form PTO-1449 material to the patentability of one or more of the claims in the above-captioned application. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner make his consideration

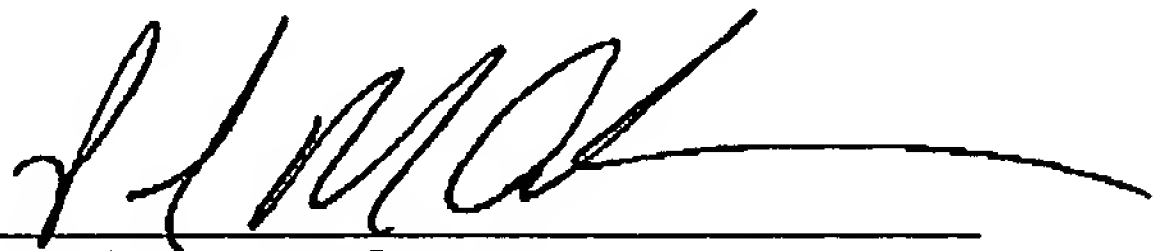
of these references formally of record with the initial Office Action.

CONCLUSION

Applicants request entry of the foregoing amendment prior to examination of this application. Applicants submit that all of the claims present patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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